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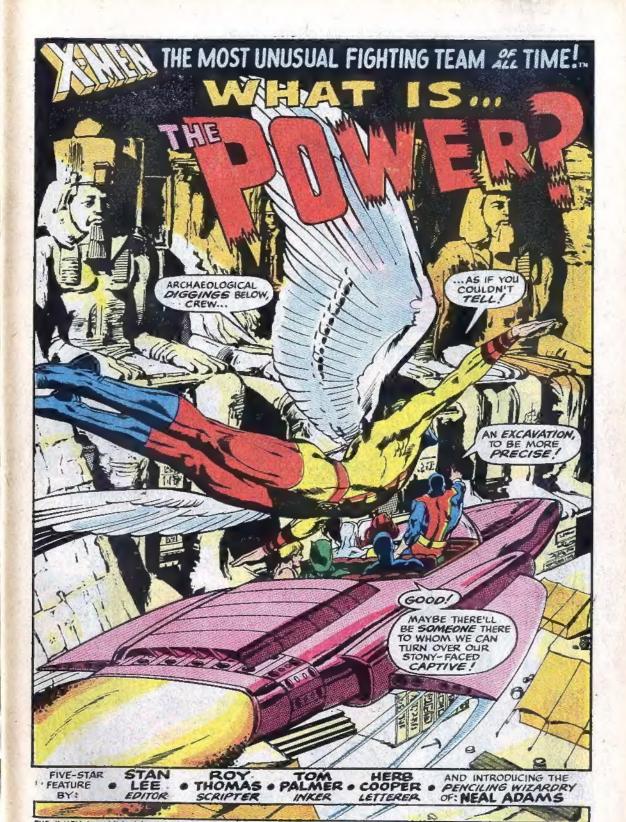
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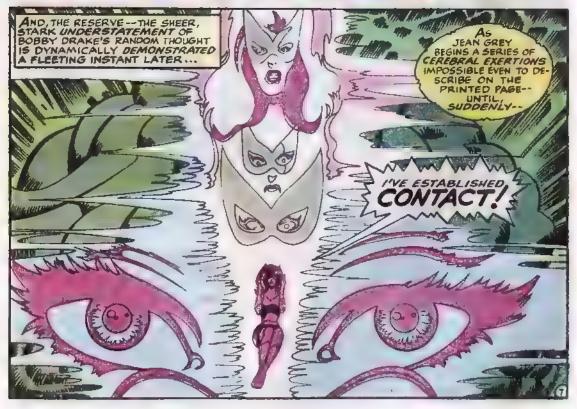
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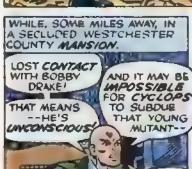
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appeared in our mags some months back asking you to answer various questions Blood yourselves as order to give us a more accurate understanding of our rabid rooders' from here are the three U.S. Sav ings Band winners surrept trously selected by Hunest I've Forbush himself (1) Warren Bureen San Marce Cat 97/09 (1 Barren Morgenroth Buttey H J 071/2 Congratu lotions favored ones you're herees Incidentally as you probably suspected the survey proved that the actual leader ship of our mixed up Marver mags con-trats of the highest percentage of adult behavers ever is crided in the history of medium! But pen, take a bow

ITEM! How about doing us a favor friend! Rest time you make like a period to us of the make our job a sillion times against if you'll just write somewhere on the face of the envelope. The name of the mag your letter is referring to. Those are the ones we open first cause we can process them fester Nuff said!

FFEM). We shid it again? Yep, we've addpti mosther new hiten furningry to be Billion rooter of stars' in other words say billion to hetarious hEAL ADAMS who has gits fout tentalizely planted in our Marvel doorway. We're guessing that your ecitatic Comments, when you see the way his clies brated our latest it bill his burntshell will transform him into a Marvel madman from head to too it isn't only his fantastic artwork that impresses us but the way find makes it foot no easy.

ITEMS GENE The Dean COLAN one of the proud pillars of pencilling proficiency which our little empire rests is out ready to tackie another new feature for us. But he hash't yet decided which eas he wants to do. So how about he ping Semal Gene gang! Which strip would you like to see him tend his seesome at still talents to! Drop us a line, huh! If we keep him buly reading mail maybe he'll forget to ask for another is se

FEMILIA case you we been wondering what Reppend to Jounty JIM STERANKO we Bid thee have no lear. SI'm Jim is work. a firend new feature shortly be aput ighted in MARYE, SUPER HEROES And talk about a secret he figure I even tald US what it is

ITEM! Here a an a councement we with mised emplions. JACR Rings R RBY and family are leaving New York and moving to California to fect by the time you read this the King will already be settled on the shares of the blue Pacific But don't panic pitgrim—he'll still be doing his bit for the Bullpen same as over it's just that he'll be spending most his extra cabbage on oir mail stemps rather then these hing sized eigers loves to sport Actually it's a terrific deal for the Great One, who certainly deserves his place in the sun, but poor of Stan has consistions every time he thinks of the long distance phone bitis he's genna run up each month when he calls his pantin partner to discuss their latest plats? Heco BOY

(TEM! Speaking of staffers who don't quite The within walting distance of Madram Aven e we thought you might get a kin old of knowing who has where 50 here gass. Beantul BARRY SMITH probably gats the prize for being most far out . mean literally since he's re cont. et. all t gold from who co he me a us his good as each month. Then en a der uit tu thest distance from the Bullpan me present Dapper DAN AU 63765, in far-off Otto ... Brieffin' SAM

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For many years we've been trying in our days bumbling may to sustrate that ove a a far greater force a far greater power than hate New ee around like a persuetting Pollyanna toxarne posies at everyone who passes by but we do want to make a point cet's consider three man Buddha hrist and Moses men of peace shose thoughts and deeds have in um ad countless millions throughout the agos and whose presence still is fert in every comer of t of the earth of good will man of tulerance and as per a , men of love New consider the p a " for era of hale who have suited pages of history. Who still you ates their words' Where is hemage still paid to their memory' What benners still are raised to their cause power of love and the power of hote Which is most truly enduring! When y u fend to desper ret the ensurer sustain you

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how before cutting out we've just gotta tell you about John Sintey BROOSKY A few days ago he ar ou ad that he stun ning Se me and the hild on nere! at a Triving ou the Bullpen started to plagare the usual pandemon ous party they throw for such momentous us asions. Then when everything was set the Jolly One ermy annuaried his new dest aften - & fights up in the same apartment se And he wonders why its one's souther to him stories

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THOSE #166 Ther VS PLUTO - 86 BMY Ms re a masters of magnificant mayben out present it. And just for good mean wire that it even meet the Mysterious, ever account ZEUS!

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ADDRESS YOUR LETTERS TO NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

Dear Stan, Arnold, and Barry,

First of all, congratulations on finally getting a good artist for the X-MEN. Burry Smith is really great on them as in ish #53. In that Issue, I thought the first two pages were done by Jack (King) Kirby; it's very much like his style. But the rest of the mag revealed Barry's own style. Keep him there!

George D. Schoetzle, Box 24, Concordia Seminary

Clayton, Mo. 63105

Ooops — looks like we geefed again, George, 'cause X-MEN #53 turned out to be our bashful Britisher's sole outing with our merry mutants. But, though Barry has moved on to DAREDEVIL, we trust that you'll not find the awesome artwork of Nefarious Neal Adams to your distaste! What say, G.D.?

Dear Stan, Arnold, and Werner,

When you started your "Origins of the X-Men", I suppose you thought that most of the fans' questions would be answered. Mine are not In issue #39, you show Cyclops as an orphan. How did his parents die? How old was he when they died? Aside from these questions, the series was quite good In the first installment of the Iceman origin tales, you say that the story takes place in a small town in Nassau County, Is this Nassau County in New York? The town reminds me of a small western town when the sheriff hangs someone and the whole bloodthirsty town turns out to see the big events! In my opinion, the best part of the whole series was when we were told the function of Iceman's powers. So far, the Beast series is very believable. Now, I have some questions about the X-Men as a whole group. How old are the X-Men About the X-men as a wrose group, row one are instantial individually? How old were they when they joined the X-Men? Since you are trying to change the X-Men bit by bit, it would be more different to have them deal with a villain who uses brains instead of brawn. All in all, since I realize that you are human and make mistakes, I think that your comic is logical, believable, and quite excellent.
M. Brogdon, 1420 Washington Ave.
Bronx, N. Y. 10456

So do we, M.B. — but then we've been told we're alightly projudiced. We've always been a bit shy about revealing the exact ages of our mutant heroes, but suffice it to say that all except Icemon are in the 19-20 age bracket, while Bobby Drake is around 18. And now, before anyone asks how Scott's brother Alex managed to graduate from college at the ripe young age of 18 or 19, let us hasten to assure one and all that such things can happen, especially with brighter students like Alex. Under special circumstances, he could have entered as early as his 16th year, and graduated in three years by going to summer school (no pun in-tended). After all, that's how long it took Rascally Roy Thomas — and he isn't even a mutant (as each of his two heads keeps telling us) And yes, Nassau County is in New York — but author Gary Friedrich is from the wilds of Missouri, and a bit of down-home flavor might have crept in here and there in that Iceman origin! Excelsion

Dear Stan, Arnold, and Jim,

I read X-MEN #51 and blew up. You kill Professor X, but the first chance you get, you bring back Magneto. If you can bring back villains, why not heroes? You could say that he was put in suspended animation, like Cap, until scientists find a cure for his disease. I implore you, beg you, plead with you, (sheesh) and if that doesn't work—I DEMAND you bring book Professor XI

Michael Fortier, 7532 S. Narmal Chicago, III. 60620

You demand it - we'd love it - but what about the cheerful undertaker who planted him away, Mike? To tell the truth, we're curious - do the hosts of Marveldem Assembled really want to see Professor X return to the land of the living, or is it just nostalgia for one of the most truly unique superheroes of all time? Let us know, huh?

Dear Stan, Amold, and Werner, in my opinion, Werner Rath is the best artist for the X-Men. The recent issue, =52, proves my point. Although his style is not as unusual as Steranko's ar Colan's, it is pleasant, bright, and simple enough to achieve my ideal of artistic perfection. For me, his artwork makes the X-MEN. Now I would like to make a stab at a no-prize. Throughout X-MEN =52, Erik the Red (in reality, Cyclops) was shown emitting energy through his hands, when as every X.Fan knows, Cyclops' energy comes from his eyes But wait! Like so many before me, I have solutions for this error Solution I: the costume of Cyclops harnessed his energy in some way so that it could be transmitted from another part of his body. Solution 2: you goofed!

Kent Roberts, 21 Kennedy Court Massena, N. Y 13662 Yeu pays your money and you takes your choice, Kentl As far your blushin', booboo-prone Bullpen well, if you den't know which of the two solutions above we opt for, you haven't been following us thru our last \$2 ink-stained issues! 'Nuff said!



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P.M.M. POSSESSING ALL FOUR OF THE OTHER TITLES.

F.F. FEARLESS FRONT FACERI-AN HONORARY TITLE
BESTOWED FOR DEVOTION TO MARVEL ABOVE
AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Dear Stan, Arnold, and Jim,

I disagree with your sentiment that Lorna must stick by Magneto because he is (supposedly) her father. Nor do I see why the X-Men consider this attitude a virtue and expect it of her. ("She's got too much quality to desert even a father like that." "Filial duty . . . the girl has no option but to turn against us." "I cannot forget that his blood runs in my veins." I must defend Magneto with my very life.") Firstly, I cannot understand why she (and the X-Men) believed the unsupported statement of Magneto, to the effect that he was her father. She was a powerful mutant and would be an excellent acquisition to his army of mutants. It was written in the stars that he would attempt to persuade her to join him! Secondly, Magneto holds beliefs contrary to Lorna's ideals and those of the X-Men. He is a dangerous criminal. Though it would be a hard decision to make, she should decide to join forces with the X-Men to bring him to justice (and if necessary rationalizing her action by saying it was for "his own good"). At the least, she should remain completely neutral. Finally, Magneto is a menace to the whole world. Discounting all the above, this is the most potent factor in Lorna's decision. Should she betray one cruel man who happened to sire her, or should she betray the whole of humanity? There could be only one choice, Humanity comes first.

Greer Watson, 178 Alexandro Blvd. Toronto 12, Ontario, Canada

And so it did, in the end, Greer . . . but not until a plethora of soul-searching! By the way, in case you feel we've left you in the lurch about lucious Lorna these past few issues, she'll be back in the action in our very next issue — and completely Magneto-less!



Dear Stan.

You asked for fans' opinions of Barry Smith's art work. Well, here's one; it's exquisite! However, there are a few things I think would improve it. He should decrease the size of the margins betwixt the panels, as those quarter inch jobs of his sort of make it hard to look at the art itself; they're distracting. He should, as he now does, keep his panels large. He seems very adept at drawing large faces, hands and so on. But a little more variety in the shape of said panels—if you please! Anything else? Oh yes—he should concentrate on backgrounds and facial expression a bit more. I hate to say this, but there were too many panels with lifeless faces and one color backgrounds. He has an excellent command af perspective, consistently good (and sometimes great!) positioning, and draws large and imaginatively. He is purely an action artist—and I can think of nothing more suitable than CAPTAIN AMERICA in King Kirby's absence. And to think, this was only his first job! He's going to be one of the great ones—in less time than you think!

Brooklyn, N. Y. 11212

And all the way from merry old England, too—to which Barry and his cavortin' crony Steve. Parkhouse (co-author of the recent Ka-Zar epic) have returned after a brief stay in the U.S.A.! But don't worry... we won't dare deprive you frantic ones of Barry's art and an occasional script by Mr. P., even if we have to keep honest Irv Forbush shuttling back and forth twist New York and Loridon! (Which, come to think of it, might just be the best way to keep him out of Smiley's hair!)



Dear Stan, Arnold, and Jim,

Upon the subject of the X-Men, I quit kidding. I've read letters of persons who don't like Steranko doing the X-Men. Well, to them, I'll use a single copy to prove my point. From your closet, retract X-MEN #51. Look at the cover - the color, the art, all stand out in excellency! Now, to the front page - is there any other way to title a story? Arnold Drake is a master of words, but it takes Steranko to put the perfect art to complement them. Look at page 3 and the last panel. Absorb the sheer power of Cyclops' fist and the beautiful follow-up on the following page. Skip to page 7. Only Steranko could bring out the sheer power in the drawing of Cyclops with clenched teeth. I wander if Sam Rosen lettered the "Crzzz!" of sheer power emitted from Cyclops on page 8. The X-Men are powerful, and more than this, ance Jim Steranko does the art, John Tartagliane is an efficient inker. Mutants are still human to some degree. Although I am in no position to back up that statement, I'll still hold to it. Now, I'll bet someone will use my tactics and say, "Look on page 11, see Cyclops bring down the roof, is that human?" In this case I'd lose, but if you will refer to page 13, you'll see Bobby and Scott in a small argument. Oh, did I say small? An argument involving love and emotions can't bespeak android qualities, yet Bobby and Scott employ them. I rest my case, and I remain yours truly.

Todd Freeman, Jr., 2916 Lakeridge Court Dayton, Ohio 45408

Jim thanks you . . . Arnald thanks you . . . and from the boundless depths of Brooklyn, slammin' Sammy Rosen sent his regards and said, "Crzzz!"



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